Widow not included in compassionate employment at VSTPP, CISF

3171. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only the daughter or the son of the deceased employees who worked in CISF Unit of Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Project (VSTPP) are eligible for employment on compassionate grounds and not their widows; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) CISF is following the scheme of compassionate appointments issued by the Department of Personnel and Training *vide* their O.M.No. F14014/18/2000-Estt.(D) dated 22nd June, 2001 as amended upto date, under which appointment is granted on compassionate grounds to a dependent family member of a Government servent dying in harness. Under this scheme dependent family member means spouse or son or daughter (including adopted son of daughter) or brother or sister in the case of unmarried Government servant.

Loss of life and property due to rains in Kerala

3172. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a widespread loss of property and life due to the rains in the month of March of 2008 in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of action taken to assist the State from the above calamity;

(c) if so, whether any steps have been taken for early assessment of the loss of life and property and for granting relief to the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (e) As per the information received from the State Government, based on their preliminary assessment, 20 human lives lost, 1325 houses damaged and 1.39 lakh ha. of cropped area have been reported damage due to heavy rains/floods during March, 2008 in the State.

The State Government concerned is required to undertake necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. To ensure ready availability of funds with the States, a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted for each State, which is contributed by Government of India and the State Governments in the ratio of 75:25. Central contribution is released in two equal installments. Additional assistance is also provided to the States in the wake of calamities of severe nature from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), as per laid down procedure. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing logistic and financial support.

The Government of India had released the entire Central share of CRF during the year 2007-08 amounting to Rs. 70.70 crore to Kerala.